REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application. Claims 3, 11-16, 18 and 23-27 are pending; claim 3 is amended; and claims 1, 4-10 and 20 are cancelled in this Response. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiner Brown for the courtesies extended to the Applicants' attorney in the telephonic interview conducted on June 12, 2007, during which independent claims 1, 2, 4, 7 and 20 were discussed in view of U.S. Patents 7,066,474 to Hiebert and 5,913,525 to Schneider. Although no formal agreement was reached on all of the claims, the Examiner stated that the amending the rejected claims to recite a passive dumping feature would be considered favorably. Accordingly, the Applicants are pursuing a continuation application with respect to this and other features.

II. Allowable Claims

Applicants further appreciate Examiner Brown's statement that claims 11-16, 18 and 23-27 continue to be allowable.

III. Objection

As previously presented, claim 3 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, namely claim 2. Claim 3 has been amended so that it is now in allowable form.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the cancellation of the previously rejected claims and the objection correction puts the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully solicited. If the Examiner notes any further issues to address with the patent application, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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